



**February 3, 2020
Regular Board Meeting**

The Regular Meeting of Madison Utilities convened at the Madison Utilities' Office located at 101 Ray Sanderson Drive with Chairman Terris Tatum presiding. Vice Chairman Steve Haraway, Director Gerald Clark, Director A. Keith Cook and Director Rob Szymd were present. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer/General Manager Emory DeBord and Recording Clerk Jodie Parker.

Others present were Wastewater Manager Mark Bland, Water Manager Jason Leggett, Finance Manager Gary Sparks, Customer Service Manager Misty Leftwich and Attorney Woody Sanderson.

Chairman Terris Tatum called the Regular Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Registered Public in attendance: None

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

2. CURRENT AGENDA/MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

a. February 3, 2020 Current Agenda

The agenda for the February 3, 2020 Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the February 3, 2020 Called Meeting Agenda as submitted; Director Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. January 22, 2020 Called Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the January 22, 2020 Called Meeting were presented to the Board. Director Clark moved to approve the minutes for the January 22, 2020 Called Meeting; Vice Chairman Haraway seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. PLATS/BONDS

a. Preliminary Project Approval
None

b. Dedication and Improvements
None

4. OLD BUSINESS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Occupational Health Group (OHG) Services – Contract Renewal

Vice Chairman Haraway moved to approve the Occupational Health Group (OHG) Services Contract Renewal; Director Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Personnel Policy Revision – Section 7.2.2 Annual Leave items A, F and G

Attorney Sanderson confirmed that the proposed changes were acceptable. Director Clark moved to approve the Personnel Policy Revision to Section 7.2.2 Annual Leave items A, F and G; Vice Chairman Haraway seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

c. Recommendation for Financial Advisors/Underwriters

Finance Manager Sparks presented the Board with three proposals from Financial Advisors/Underwriters; he further commented that the Board was familiar with two of the parties

but that the third is probably the largest of the three. Finance Manager Sparks explained that he and the General Manager had met with all three parties; he then proceeded to go into greater detail describing the options to the Board and discussion ensued.

Vice Chairman Haraway moved to use Stifel, Nicolaus & Company to handle the financial and underwriting services for the upcoming bond issue with the contingency that it is without a reserve fund and a surety bond is included; Director Cook seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. LEGAL

Attorney Sanderson gave a brief update on the ongoing finalizing of the Williams Well and Rowe Well arrangements; he added that the Rowe Well ordinance is scheduled to be on the February 10th City Council agenda. Attorney Sanderson also explained that he is working on finalizing an agreement regarding the Windstone property.

7. WATER REPORT

Water Manager Leggett stated that in the past few months there have been a large amount of leaks, time sensitive projects, and employee turnover which resulted in falling behind in the operations department. He added that some new employees with more experience had been hired and now that the water department is nearly fully staffed again, he anticipated getting caught up on leaks and other projects.

Water Manager Leggett also discussed some testing for PFAS and PFOS that ADEM requested (he clarified that it was not compliance driven, but was just for information gathering purposes). He also notified the Board that a contractor hit the 36" main from the intake and that they were able to secure a temporary fix until they are able to do a permanent repair once the weather dries out.

8. WASTEWATER REPORT

Wastewater Manager Bland gave a brief update on the fueling station as well as the Martin Road (startup scheduled for the next week) and Balch Road Lift Stations (trunk lines are in, waiting on the tie-in and almost ready for start-up). He also added that the ADEM permit renewal had been received and should be complete soon.

9. FINANCE REPORT

Finance Manager Sparks provided the Board with the information from Tom Dyer which contained the utility comparison the Board had requested at the previous meeting. He also mentioned that the interest rates were currently down and recommended it is a good time to take advantage of fast-tracking the ratings agency meetings and borrowing.

10. CUSTOMER SERVICE

None

11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager DeBord mentioned that he had received a draft agreement from Athens Utilities for flat rate sewer billing services. He added that some changes were being made and then it would be sent to Attorney Sanderson for review.

12. VICE CHAIRMAN HARAWAY

None

13. DIRECTOR COOK

None.

14. DIRECTOR CLARK

Director Clark mentioned a concern from a customer who felt it was too slow of a process to clean up an area after repair work had been done. After some discussion, Vice Chairman

Haraway mentioned that the County uses a contractor to address cleanup and recover the area. General Manager DeBord asked to see the agreement the County has so he can review it. Vice Chairman Haraway added that it could relieve some of the pressure off of the water operations crews and allow them to move on to other leaks and such. Director Clark added that MU would still need to follow-up and check the area. Water Manager Leggett stated that is the current process for concrete repairs, the area is inspected before the invoices for the work are paid.

15. **DIRECTOR SZMYD**

None

16. **CHAIRMAN TATUM**

None

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:30 p.m. the Board agreed to adjourn.

Approved,

Terris Tatum, Chairman

Steve Haraway, Vice Chairman

Gerald Clark, Director

A. Keith Cook, Director

Rob Szmyd, Director

ATTEST:

Emory DeBord, Secretary/Treasurer